

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested. Claims 1-25 are pending, Claims 1-4, 6-10, 13-18, 21-22 and 25 having been amended by way of the present amendment. Support for the amendments to the claims is found throughout the specification, for example page 32, line 5 to page 34, line 12. Therefore no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, the title was objected to; Claims 18 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101; Claims 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph; Claims 1-22 and 24-25 were rejected as being anticipated by DeBruine et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0138552, hereinafter DeBruine); and Claim 23 was rejected as being unpatentable over DeBruine.

In reply, the title has been amended as requested.

Claims 18 and 25 have been amended consistent with 35 U.S.C. § 101.

Likewise, Claims 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9 and 10 have been amended consistent with 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. However if the Examiner disagrees, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned so that mutually agreeable claim language may be identified.

Claim 1 has been amended to further clarify the claim language and distinguish DeBruine. In particular, amended Claim 1 is directed to an information processing system that includes a first information processing apparatus connected with a first network, and a second information processing apparatus configured to perform communication with the first information processing apparatus. A third information processing apparatus manages communications between the first and second information processing apparatuses. If the first and second information processing apparatuses are determined to be connected to a same network, then communication with the second information process apparatus is performed on the basis of a network-specific address that is defined on the first network (see e.g., page 32,

first full paragraph). On the other hand, when the second information processing apparatus is determined not to be connected on the same network as that which the first information processing apparatus is connected, then communication with the second information processing apparatus is performed on the basis of a different address. The different address is different than the network-specific address in that said different address is a global address that is recognized on the second network (see e.g., page 36, first full paragraph).

An advantage with the invention defined by amended Claim 1 is that for example, it would enable a change from a private network address to an IP address based on whether the destination is within a same private network as the sending apparatus. In a non-limiting example, if the destination apparatus is in a same local area network (LAN), then another device that wants to establish peer-to-peer communications will use a local address that is meaningful only in that LAN. However, if the destination apparatus is not part of the LAN, then the sending apparatus will use a global IP address, as notified by the server. In a non-limiting example, paragraphs [0089] through [0095] in the published specification describes an example of how to establish the peer-to-peer communication between the client and the destination.

The outstanding Office Action asserts that DeBruine discloses every feature in Claim 1. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

DeBruine is directed to a file exchange system between clients in a same private network. The same private network uses peer-to-peer communication, but has no need for using anything other than the private addresses. Interestingly, DeBruine does not describe how to establish the peer-to-peer communication within the network. As such, DeBruine neither discloses nor would have any reason to describe how to use a global IP address and a local address as substitutes for one another. Also in DeBruine there is no concept of switching addresses depending on whether the sending terminal and the receiving terminal

are on the same LAN, or on different networks. Importantly, in DeBruine (see Figure 2, step 110, [0025]-[0026]), if the destination terminal is not in the same network as the transmitting terminal (the terminal trying to send the file), then DeBruine describes that communication is denied and the process closes.

Comparing amended Claim 1 with DeBruine, amended Claim 1 requires that the first information processing apparatus determines whether the second information processing apparatus is connected with a same network as the first information processing apparatus. If it is, then communication with the second information processing apparatus is performed using a network-specific address. On the other hand, if the first and second information processing apparatuses are on different networks, then communication is established using a different address than a network specific address, where the different address is a global address that is recognized on the second network. As discussed above, DeBruine simply has no reason for using such a system as claimed because DeBruine operates on a single private network. As such it is respectfully submitted that amended Claim 1 patentably defines over the asserted prior art.

Although of differing statutory class and/or scope, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 2-22 and 24-25 patentably define over DeBruine for substantially the same reasons discussed above with regard to Claim 1.

Likewise, Claim 23 is believed to patentably define over DeBruine as DeBruine does not disclose all the elements of Claim 19, from which Claim 23 depends. Furthermore, as discussed above, DeBruine neither teaches nor suggests, nor would properly operate in its private network, if it changed addresses as discussed above. Accordingly, it is believed that Claim 23 also patentably defines over DeBruine.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the foregoing comments, it is respectfully submitted that the invention defined by Claims 1-25, as amended,

is patentably distinguishing over the prior art. The present application is therefore believed to be in condition for formal allowance and an early and favorable reconsideration of this application is therefore requested.

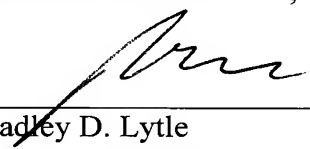
Respectfully submitted,

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